

years old. This leads me to wonder—Why not A JUNIOR BRANCH OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB, for the embryo botanist—THE BOTANIST OF TOMORROW!

HELENE LUNT
Inwood-Manhattan

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 1930

The meeting was called to order at The New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P. M. by President Denslow. The minutes of the meeting of January 7th, were read and approved. Thirty-five members were present.

The following were unanimously elected to membership in the club:

Mr. B. R. Abbott, 27 West 44th Street, New York City; Mr. J. E. Adams, 115 West 68th Street, New York City; Mr. F. M. Cota, 3846 Cherokee Street, San Diego, California; and Prof. Kingo Miyabe, Hokkaido Imperial University, Sapporo, Japan.

The resignation of Mrs. Ellis Parker Butler was accepted.

The auditing committee have gone over the treasurer's accounts and found them in excellent order and correct. The report of the auditing committee was accepted.

Dr. Arthur Harmount Graves spoke on "The Recent History and Present Status of the Chestnut."

The subject was discussed under the following headings:

1. The value and varied uses of the American chestnut.
2. The natural range of the species.
3. The condition of the chestnut during the past century, particularly in the southern states.
4. The chestnut bark blight.
 - a. Discovery in 1904 by Herman W. Merkel, in New York Zoological Garden.
 - b. First study by Dr. W. A. Murrill.
 - c. Spread of the disease.
 - d. Penna. Chestnut Blight Conference, 1912.
 - e. Controversy over source of fungus: a native or an introduced species?

- f. Discovery of the parasite on native chestnut in China by Frank N. Meyer in 1913.
- g. The search for resistant individuals about N. Y. City and elsewhere. About 75 resistant individuals found in Greater New York and vicinity.
- h. Present extent of the blight in U. S. Entire area where chestnut is of commercial importance has now been reached.
- i. The cause of frequent basal sprouts from trees apparently killed by the blight; due to a greater resistance of root as compared with stem tissues.
- 5. Resistant exotic chestnuts.
 - a. Large healthy trees now growing in the vicinity of New York described and illustrated.
 - b. Crosses made by the Office of Forest Pathology, U. S. D. A., with a view to obtaining desirable resistant types.
 - c. The recent explorations of the Japanese islands, resulting in the securing of resistant forest types of the Japanese chestnut.

The speaker outlined his own research and his personal experiences as special agent of the Office of Investigations in Forest Pathology, U. S. D. A., insofar as they were related to the above topics.

Dr. A. B. Stout spoke on the "Studies on the Variegation of Pelargonium."

Meeting adjoined at 5 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,
FORMAN T. MCLEAN
Secretary

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 1930

The meeting was called to order at the American Museum Natural History at 8:15 P.M. by President Sinnott. Thirty-six members were present.

The following were unanimously elected to membership in the club:

Mr. Ronald Bamford, 612 Livingston Hall, Columbia University, and Dr. C. L. Lundell, Columbia University, New York City.

Mr. Kenneth K. MacKenzie of 615 Prospect Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, was elected to life membership in the club.

The following resignations were accepted with regret:

Mr. Charles Greenberg, Miss Ruth N. Walker, Miss Helen A. Simmerman, Miss Elizabeth Kargus and Miss Anna G. Eggerdink.

The death of Mr. E. G. Arzberger, was also reported.

Dr. R. P. Wodehouse of the Arlington Chemical Company gave a talk on "Pollen Grain Morphology." He illustrated his talk with lantern slides made from his own careful studies.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M. for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
FORMAN T. MCLEAN
Secretary

NEWS NOTES

TESTS REVEAL WHICH OAT VARIETIES ARE MOST RESISTANT TO DISEASES

As the first step in a program to reduce the annual loss suffered by oat farmers on account of rusts, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with 65 experiment stations, has completed tests extending over a period of five years to determine varieties resistant to stem rust. Incidentally, observations also were made on the resistance of these varieties to crown rust and the smuts of oats.

An important fact brought out by the tests is that there seems to be no relation between resistance to stem rust and resistance to crown rust. Some of the varieties most resistant to one rust were least resistant to the other. Observations on the smuts, another important group of oat diseases, indicate that there is also no relation between smut resistance and rust resistance in the varieties tested.

A detailed report of the tests has been published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station. The publication is Technical Bulletin 143-T, "Field Studies on the Rust Resistance of Oat Varieties."